

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Original): A method in a primary data processing system for managing a catalog, the method comprising:

sending a catalog and user information to a plurality of secondary data processing systems located in a network data processing system;

allocating inventory associated with the catalog to the plurality of secondary data processing systems;

receiving an order from one of the plurality of secondary data processing systems; and

processing the order, in response to receiving the order.

2. (Original): The method of claim 1 further comprising:

sending an update to the catalog to the plurality of secondary data processing systems.

3. (Original): The method of claim 1 further comprising:

receiving a request to reallocate the inventory from a particular secondary data processing system within the plurality of secondary data processing systems;

identifying a reallocation of the inventory in response to receiving the request; and

sending messages to each secondary data processing system involved in the reallocation of the inventory.

4. (Original): The method of claim 3, wherein the request to allocate the inventory is received from the particular secondary data processing system upon a detection of a condition by the secondary data processing system.

5. (Original): The method of claim 4, wherein the condition is a threshold.

6. (Original): The method of claim 1 further comprising:

periodically obtaining necessary shopping cart data from at least one secondary data processing system within the plurality of secondary data processing systems; and

forwarding the necessary shopping cart data to other secondary data processing systems within the plurality of secondary data processing systems.

7. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 6, wherein a secondary data processing system within the plurality of secondary data processing systems periodically obtains necessary shopping cart data from a particular secondary data processing system within a plurality of secondary data processing systems; and forwards the necessary shopping cart data to other secondary data processing systems within the plurality of secondary data processing systems.

8. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 1, wherein the catalog is sent in a markup language document.

9. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 8, wherein the markup language is extensible markup language.

10. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 1 further comprising:
detecting a presence of another secondary data processing system; and
sending the catalog to the another secondary data processing system in response to detecting the presence.

11. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of secondary data processing systems are located within a network data processing system.

12. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 11, wherein the network data processing system is at least one of a wide area network, an intranet, and the Internet.

13. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 1, wherein the catalog is a first catalog, the inventory is a first inventory, and further comprising:
sending a second catalog to a second plurality of secondary data processing systems;
and
allocating the second inventory to be associated with the second catalog to the second plurality of secondary data processing systems.

14. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 13, wherein a particular item is present in the first catalog and the second catalog.

15. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 13, wherein a selected secondary server is part of the first plurality of secondary servers and the second plurality of secondary servers.

16-31. (Canceled)

32. (Previously Presented): A data processing system for managing a catalog, the data processing system comprising:

sending means for sending a catalog and user information to a plurality of secondary data processing systems located in a network data processing system;

allocating means for allocating inventory associated with the catalog to the plurality of secondary data processing systems;

receiving means for receiving an order from one of the plurality of secondary data processing systems; and

processing means for processing the order, in response to receiving the order.

33. (Previously Presented): The data processing system of claim 32, wherein the sending means is a first sending means and further comprising:

second sending means for sending an update to the catalog to the plurality of secondary data processing systems.

34. (Previously Presented): The data processing system of claim 32, wherein the receiving means is a first receiving means, the sending means is a first sending means and further comprising:

second receiving means for receiving a request to reallocate the inventory from a particular secondary data processing system within the plurality of secondary data processing systems;

identifying means for identifying a reallocation of the inventory in response to receiving the request; and

third sending means for sending messages to each secondary data processing system involved in the reallocation of the inventory.

35. (Previously Presented): The data processing system of claim 34, wherein the request to allocate the inventory is received from the particular secondary data processing system upon a detection of a condition by the secondary data processing system.

36. (Previously Presented): The data processing system of claim 35, wherein the condition is a threshold.

37. (Previously Presented): The data processing system of claim 32 further comprising:
obtaining means for periodically obtaining necessary shopping cart data from at least one secondary data processing system within the plurality of secondary data processing systems to primary data processing system; and
forwarding means for forwarding the necessary shopping cart data to other secondary data processing systems within the plurality of secondary data processing systems.

38. (Previously Presented): The data processing system of claim 37, wherein a secondary data processing system within the plurality of secondary data processing systems periodically obtains necessary shopping cart data from a particular secondary data processing system within a plurality of secondary data processing systems; and forwards the necessary shopping cart data to other secondary data processing systems within the plurality of secondary data processing systems.

39. (Previously Presented): The data processing system of claim 32, wherein the catalog is sent in a markup language document.

40. (Currently Amended): The data processing system of claim ~~[[32]]~~ 39, wherein the markup language is extensible markup language.

41. (Previously Presented): The data processing system of claim 32, wherein the sending means is a first sending means and further comprising:

detecting means for detecting a presence of another secondary data processing system; and

fourth sending means for sending the catalog to the another secondary data processing system in response to detecting the presence.

42. (Previously Presented): The data processing system of claim 32, wherein the plurality of secondary data processing systems are located within a network data processing system.

43. (Previously Presented): The data processing system of claim 42, wherein the network data processing system is at least one of a wide area network, an intranet, and an Internet.

44. (Previously Presented): The data processing system of claim 32, wherein the catalog is a first catalog, the inventory is a first inventory, the sending means is a first sending means, the allocating means is a first allocating means and further comprising:

fifth sending means for sending a second catalog to a second plurality of secondary data processing systems; and

second allocating means for allocating the second inventory to associated with the second catalog to the second plurality of secondary data processing systems.

45. (Previously Presented): The data processing system of claim 44, wherein a particular item is present in the first catalog and the second catalog.

46. (Previously Presented): The data processing system of claim 44, wherein a selected secondary server is part of the first plurality of secondary servers and the second plurality of secondary servers.

47-73. (Canceled)